

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

2

3 1. A device for securely transporting objects in a vehicle,  
4 wherein said device comprises:

5 a base;

6 a plurality of sides;

7 at least one opening for holding at least one of said  
8 objects; and

9 means for securing said device within said vehicle;

10 wherein at least one of said sides comprises said means for  
11 securing said device;

12 wherein (said each of said sides) is attached to said base  
13 such that said sides and said base form a region for positioning  
14 said object or objects therein; and

15 wherein said opening is positioned between said sides.

16

17 2. A device according to claim 1, wherein said opening is  
18 formed by a plurality of slits on said sides extending from a  
19 common point along an edge of at least one of said sides such  
20 that said slits are approximately equidistant from each adjacent  
21 slit.

22

23 3. A device according to claim 2, wherein said plurality of  
24 slits on each of said sides comprises three slits.

25

1 4. A device according to claim 1, wherein said means for  
2 securing said device comprises at least one notch on at least one  
3 edge of at least one of said sides.

4

5 5. A device according to claim 4, wherein said notch is such  
6 that it accepts a strap.

7

8 6. A device according to claim 1, wherein said device is  
9 manufactured as a single structure such that said base and said  
10 sides are formed by folding said single structure.

11

12 7. A device according to claim 1, wherein said device is  
13 constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of  
14 cardboard, oaktag, wood, plastic, foam and metal.

15

16 8. A device according to claim 1, wherein (at least one of edge  
17 of at least one of said sides) comprises at least one connector  
18 and said base comprises a plurality of slots for accepting (said  
19 connectors). *GR.*  
*NAB (only one positively recited)*

20

21 9. A device according to claim 8, wherein said slots are  
22 positioned such that said region of said device for positioning  
23 said object or objects is adjustable.

24

25 10. A device according to claim 1, wherein said device comprises

1 more than one opening, wherein each said opening is capable of  
2 accepting at least one object.

3

4 11. A device according to claim 1, wherein said base is  
5 elongated.

6

7 12. A device according to claim 1, wherein said base comprises  
8 means for attaching said sides to said base such that the height  
9 and width of said device is adjustable.

10

11 13. A device for securely transporting an object or objects in a  
12 moving vehicle, wherein said device comprises:  
13                   a base region having at least one connecting means;  
14                   a plurality of sides each having at least three edges,  
15                   wherein each of said sides is attached to said  
16                   base and wherein each of said sides is attached to  
17                   another of said sides;  
18                   at least one opening for securing said object or  
19                   objects within said device; and  
20                   means for securing said device in a stationary  
21                   position;

22                   wherein a first of said sides is attached to a second of  
23                   said sides forming a region for positioning said object or  
24                   objects therein;

25                   wherein said opening <sup>is positioned the top</sup> of said region;

1 and

2 wherein at least one of said plurality of sides comprises at  
3 least one second means for connecting such that said at least one  
4 of said plurality of sides is attached to said base by attaching  
5 said first connecting means to said second connecting means.

6

7 14. A device according to claim 13, wherein said first means for  
8 connecting comprises at least one slot and wherein said second  
9 means for connecting comprise at least one tab such that said at  
10 least one of said plurality of sides is attached to said base by  
11 inserting said at least one tab into said at least one slot.

12

13 15. A device according to claim 14, wherein said first means for  
14 connecting comprises a plurality of said slots arranged such that  
15 attachment of said at least one of said plurality of sides to  
16 said base is adjustable.

17

18 16. A device according to claim 13, wherein said opening is  
19 positioned approximately at the center of said device.

20

21 17. A device according to claim 13, wherein said opening is  
22 created by at least two slits positioned at the top of said  
23 region.

24

25 18. A device according to claim 13, wherein said opening is

1 formed by a plurality of slits on said sides extending from a  
2 common point along the top of said region such that said slits  
3 are approximately equidistant from each other.

4

5 19. A device according to claim 13, wherein ~~means for securing a~~ <sup>DI?</sup>  
6 strap) is at least one notch positioned on an edge of at least one  
7 of said sides.

8

9 20. A device according to claim 13, wherein said device is  
10 manufactured as a single structure such that said base and said  
11 sides are formed by folding said single structure.

12

13 21. A device according to claim 13, wherein said device is  
14 constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of  
15 cardboard, oaktag, wood, plastic, foam and metal.

16

17 22. A device according to claim 13, wherein said device  
18 comprises more than one opening, wherein each said opening is  
19 capable of accepting at least one object.

20

21 23. A device according to claim 13, wherein said base is  
22 elongated.

23

24 24. A device according to claim 13, wherein said base comprises  
25 means for attaching said sides to said base such that the height

1 and width of said device is adjustable.

2

3 25. A device for securely transporting an object or objects in a  
4 moving vehicle, wherein said device comprises a generally flat,  
5 and rectangular element, said element having a plurality of first  
6 slits, at least one second slit, at least two predetermined fold  
7 lines, at least one notch located on a first edge (thereof), and at  
8 least one connector located on a second edge (thereof),

9 wherein said element is formed into said device by folding

10 said element along said predetermined fold lines and positioning  
11 at least one said connector within at least one said second slit,

12 wherein said plurality of first slits extend from a common  
13 point along a first of said fold lines such that said plurality  
14 of first slits are approximately equidistant from each adjacent  
15 slit to form an opening, and

16 wherein said at least one notch is positioned such that said  
17 device accepts a fastening means for securing said device.

18

19 26. A device according to claim 25, wherein said common point is  
20 at the midpoint of one of said fold lines.

21

22 27. A device according to claim 25, wherein said common point is  
23 not at the midpoint of one of said fold lines.

24

25 28. A device according to claim 27, wherein at least one of said

1 fold lines has a plurality of third slits extending from a second  
2 common point along said fold line such that said plurality of  
3 third slits form a second opening.

4

5 29. A device according to claim 25, wherein said first slits  
6 include slits which are positioned perpendicular to said first  
7 fold line and slits which are positioned at forty-five degree  
8 angles with respect to said first fold line.

9

10 30. A device according to claim 25, wherein said device is  
11 constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of  
12 cardboard, oaktag, wood, plastic, foam and metal.

*Skew 2*

13 31. A device according to claim 25, wherein said device further  
14 comprises at least one handle.

16

17 32. A device according to claim 25, wherein said fastening means  
18 is selected from the group consisting of a seatbelt, rope, wire,  
19 strap and bungee cord.

20

21 33. A device according to claim 25, wherein said base is  
22 elongated.

23

24 34. A device according to claim 25, wherein said base comprises  
25 means for attaching said sides to said base such that the height

1 and width of said device is adjustable.

2

3 35. A device for transporting objects comprising:

4 a base;

5 a plurality of sides attached to said base;

6 an opening; and

7 a means for securing said device;

8 wherein ~~a strap~~ <sup>DT</sup> secures said device in a stationary  
9 position.

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

36. A device according to claim 35, wherein said opening is  
formed by a plurality of slits on at least one of said sides.

37. A device according to claim 35, wherein said means for  
securing said device comprises at least one notch on at least one  
of said sides.

38. A device according to claim 35, wherein said device is  
manufactured as a single structure such that said base and said  
sides are formed by folding said single structure.

39. A device according to claim 39, wherein said device is  
constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of  
cardboard, oaktag, wood, plastic, foam and metal.

1 40. A device according to claim 35, wherein said base comprises  
2 means for attaching said sides to said base such that the height  
3 and width of said device is adjustable.

4

5 41. A device according to claim 40, wherein said means for  
6 attaching comprises at least one connector and said base  
7 comprises a plurality of slots for accepting said connectors.

8

9 42. A device according to claim 35, wherein said device  
10 comprises more than one opening, wherein each said opening is  
11 capable of accepting at least one object.

12

13 43. A device according to claim 35, wherein said base is  
14 elongated.

15

16

17